

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EA-11 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4236

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12528

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MARR, XO, UK

SUBJECT: US-UK TALKS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN

REF: STATE 178361

1. FOLLOWING IS A REPORT OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN DEPTOFF STODDART AND FCO DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HEAD JACKSON ON DETAILS OF FORTHCOMING INDIAN OCEAN CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON. THIS MESSAGE HAS NOT BEEN CLEARED BY MR. STODDART.

2. TIMING. STODDART REPORTED THAT SOME TIME DURING WEEK OF OCTOBER 28 WOULD BE MOST CONVENIENT FOR U.S. SIDE BUT AGREED THAT TWO-DAY SESSION DURING WEEK OF NOVEMBER 4 OR 11 WOULD ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE. JACKSON PROMISED TO GIVE UK RESPONSE ON DATES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. (COMMENT: ON SEPT. 25, CORMACK OF FCO INDICATED THAT WE SHOULD HAVE FINAL UK POSITION ON DATES BY SEPTEMBER 27.)

2. ON ALLOCATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LEADING DISCUSSION AND PREPARING PAPERS ON VARIOUS AGENDA ITEMS, JACKSON AND STODDART SUGGESTED FOLLOWING (KEYED TO BRITISH DRAFT AGENDA):

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ITEM I. IMPLICATIONS OF OPENING OF SUEZ CANAL. UK TO

LEAD. UK TO PREPARE DISCUSSION PAPER.

ITEM II. ASSESSMENTS.

A) SOVIET PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. UK TO
LEAD. UK TO UPDATE JIC PAPER.

B) IRANIAN INTERESTS. U.S. TO LEAD. U.S. TO
PREPARE A SHORT PAPER.

C) INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION. NOT TO BE DIS-
CUSSED AS A SEPARATE ITEM. NO PAPER

D) JAPANESE INTERESTS. U.S. TO LEAD IF DIS-
CUSSED BUT SOME DOUBTS IN USG ABOUT INCLUSION OF THIS
SUBJECT AS A SEPARATE ITEM. STODDART TO CLARIFY U.S.
POSITION ON THIS POINT.

ITEM III. ARMS LIMITATION. UK TO LEAD. UK TO PRE-
PARE PAPER.

ITEM IV. DIEGO GARCIA. U.S. TO LEAD. U.S. TO PRE-
PARE PAPER ON THIRD COUNTRY VISITS.

ITEM V. AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND PARTICIPATION IN
FUTURE CONSULTATIONS. TO BE DISCUSSED WITH NO PAPER.

ITEM VI. DEVELOPMENTS IN SEYCHELLES AND MAURITIUS.
UK TO LEAD. NO PAPER.

3. STODDART AND JACKSON AGREED THAT ONLY ONE SIDE SHOULD
PREPARE DISCUSSION PAPER FOR EACH ITEM. THEY STRESSED
THAT THE PAPERS SHOULD BE FINISHED AND GIVEN TO OTHER
SIDE 10-14 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING TO ASSURE BEST
POSSIBLE DISCUSSION.
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